

In view of the new translation of June 10, 2002, submitted herewith, please disregard the prior amendments to the specification. Please replace the following paragraphs of the specification. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Specification Amendments showing a marked up version of each replacement paragraph.

Page 1, before the first paragraph, please insert the following header:

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 6, between lines 6 and 7, please add the as following header:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the paragraphs beginning on page 6, line 9 through line 20 with the following paragraphs in clean form:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a laser according to the invention with cooling means at both ends;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the laser according to the invention with the cooling fins removed and portions thereof broken away, where the two electrodes with cooling medium channels, as well as the structure of the end pieces with flexible bearings, can be seen;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a flexible bearing end piece utilized in the laser of Figure 1;

Fig. 4 is a section view of the flexible bearing end piece of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section view of the laser structure of Fig. 2 with the

section being taken along a plane passing through the longitudinal axis thereof;

Fig. 6 is an exploded view of the laser structure of Figure 1 with a shielding netting surrounding the tubular housing all in accordance with the present invention; and

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a laser structure with a tubular housing that in its center is provided with a flexible bellows all in accordance with the present invention.

On page 7, before line 1, please insert the following header:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 16 with the following paragraph in clean form:

This makes it possible, by means of the adjusting screws 20, to adjust the end pieces, which as shown in Fig. 2, each support one of the two electrodes fastened on the outer (movable) section 24, by means of the adjusting screws 20 in the angular position to the other electrode in each instance (in Fig. 2) to the electrode 36, which is fastened at the left end.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice all of the claims 1-3, 5, 9, 11 and 14-29 and including claims 1-12 from the translation submitted herewith and dated June 10, 2002 and substitute therefore the following claims 30-52.

30. (Added) A CO₂ slab laser having a gas-filled chamber defined by a tubular housing, with at least two electrodes that extend into the tubular housing, said